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Prelia
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: HILTEBRANDT, Siegfried) Examiner:
Application No.: 09/621,870) unknown
Filing Date: 07/21/00) Art Unit:
FOR: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT) unknown

Docket No.: US 4037

14. November 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231
U.S.A.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter this amendment prior to calculation of the filing fees. This amendment is based on the translation of the filed application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1 line one insert as a title between the title and the first paragraph --

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --.

On page 1 first paragraph lines 1 and 2 replace "in accordance with the preamble of the independent claim"